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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Norikazu YOKONUMA

Group Art Unit: 2615

Application No.: 09/666,449

Examiner: G. Selby

Filed: September 21, 2000

Docket No.: 107435

For: ELECTRONIC STILL CAMERA

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

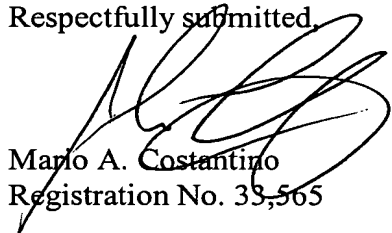
Sir:

A personal interview was conducted by Applicant's representative and Examiner G. Selby and Primary Examiner T. Ho on August 12, 2004. During the personal interview, the claim amendments and arguments presented in the June 24, 2004 Amendment were discussed. Specifically, Applicant's representative pointed out to the Examiners that U.S. Patent 5,633,976 does not disclose that image data corresponding to a frame, which has been read out from the buffer memory unit, is compressed while electronic charges for the next frame are being stored in the image-capturing element. The Examiners agreed that the feature of claim 1 of compressing an outputting the image data corresponding to a frame which has been a read out from the buffer memory immediately before, is not disclosed in the applied reference.

Applicant's representative also pointed out that neither U.S. Patent 5,633,976 or U.S. Patent 5,517,243, whether considered or in combination, disclose or suggest the features

recited in independent claims 18 and 19. The Examiners indicated that further consideration of the features recited in those claims would be provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 13, 2004

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